

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A process for producing a pad base for endermism ~~in which a minute needle is installed upright on a skin side of a patch base for skin~~ comprising: ~~the steps of:~~

dissolving a synthetic resin raw material in a solvent to form a synthetic resin raw material solution;

immersing one side end of a thin metal wire in a~~the synthetic resin raw material~~ solution ~~of a synthetic resin raw material~~ in a lengthwise direction to adhere the synthetic resin raw material solution to a periphery of the thin metal wire;

evaporating the solvent so as to lower a liquid level of the synthetic resin raw material solution;

forming the synthetic resin raw material solution adhered to the thin metal wire into a shape spreading toward the one side end of the thin metal wire;

hardening the synthetic resin raw material solution; and

pulling out the thin metal wire to form a tubular minute needle having a hollow portion; and

installing said tubular minute needle upright on a skin side of a patch base for skin, to produce a pad base for endermism.

2-3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently amended) The process for producing a pad base for endermism according to Claim 13, wherein the tubular minute needles~~needle is~~ are made of a biodegradable resin, or a biodegradable resin and an administering drug.

5. (Currently amended) The process for producing a pad base for endermism according to Claim 4, wherein the biodegradable resin is polylactic acid, or a copolymer of lactic acid and glycolic acid.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (New) The process for producing a pad base for endermism according to Claim 1, further comprising adjusting the depth of the hollow portion in the tubular minute needle, by

bringing the one side end of the thin metal wire into contact with a bottom of a dish storing the synthetic resin raw material solution during immersion, thus resulting in the hollow portion in the tubular minute needle penetrating the patch base, or by

providing a distance between the bottom of a dish storing the synthetic resin raw material solution and the one side end of the thin metal wire during immersion.

8. (New) The process of producing a pad base for endermism according to Claim 1, wherein a plurality of tubular minute needles are formed into a reticular pattern by arranging a plurality of thin metal wires prior to immersion in the synthetic resin raw material solution.